

## ORLEANS COUNTY MONITOR

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plication.

The Monitor is printing in this issue an article on the community building in which are several splendid ideas on the work a town like Barton, or any other railroad town, serving a large rural district, might do to the mutual advantage and uplift of all concerned. The community spirit must be developed in Vermont before the fullest advance can be made.

The decision of Elihu Root to allow his name as a presidential candidate before the national Republican convention means to the Monitor an understanding among the so-called "old guard" that Root is the man after the "favorite son" compliments have been paid, and we shall not be surprised to see him nominated. Hughes, Roosevelt and Root are the only men who will go before the convention in anything but the "favorite son" class. The second choice of the "favorite son" delegates hold the power of the convention in their hands. Does anyone know what this great number of delegates will do? Root is the man we fear who will catch the largest number of second choices from these men after their "favorite son" has been paid his compliments. The Monitor would rather see Hughes or Roosevelt have the nomination, and perhaps after these two, Root could draw the greatest number of votes, but Root does not typify the great body of Republican voters today. No candidate goes before the convention with a majority. Therefore in a sense, what matters it where the delegates stand first? It's where they will stick or where their second choice is found that will tell the story. Someone is pretty sure to know the second choice of a large number of the delegates going to the convention who go as Mr. So and So's delegates since Mr. So and So cannot win. Again, where do Vermont's candidates for the Chicago delegation stand after the primary's first choice becomes an impossibility, if it does?

## WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

## No Obligations.

The nomination for governor is coming to Horace F. Graham without effort on his part, as his qualifications for the office through natural ability and years of training are well recognized. There is a great difference between being unanimously supported before nomination and in winning after a hard fight, where the questions of policy and expediency come into play. Graham will be fortunate as compared to some other governors, who have felt that they had obligations and political debts to pay.—Brattleboro Phoenix.

## Expenditure by Towns.

Early in March Horace F. Graham, state auditor of accounts, sent out to each town, city, village and incorporated school district for a copy of its report for the last fiscal year. Reports or statements were received from all but two towns and almost all of the villages and incorporated districts. From these reports the auditor's office has compiled the following statistics, which may be of interest to the people of the state. This tabulation shows that the several towns, cities and incorporated school districts expended for educational purposes, including the amount received from the state, during the last business year, \$2,163,173.59; that the several towns, cities and villages expended for highways, not state highways, \$757,154.25, but in this amount is included the distribution from the state treasury of the automobile maintenance fund that the several towns, cities and villages expended upon permanent or state highways, including the amount received from the state, \$448,991.36; that the several towns and cities expended for the support of the poor, \$253,406.35; that the several towns, cities, villages and incorporated school districts expended for all other purposes except those heretofore enumerated, \$2,073,581.88. The lowest tax rate in any town or city for 1915 is sixty cents and the highest tax rate in any town or city is \$2.90. The tabulation further shows that the total bonded and net floating indebtedness of the several municipalities as of February 1, 1916, was \$8,463,555.41. The total grand list for the state for 1915, the latest available at this time, is \$2,514,490.78.—Brattleboro Phoenix.

## Jenkins' Ear.

There was a war known as "the war of Jenkins' ear." It came about in the following way: In the year 1731 an English merchant vessel was boarded by a Spanish guardship, and the captain, one Robert Jenkins, was most cruelly used, one of his ears being torn off in the scrimmage. Obtaining no redress by appealing to his government, he appeared before parliament in 1738, when the convention of the Pardo was so excitedly discussed that war followed. Jenkins' story was verified by the admiralty records so recently as 1880.—Exchange.

## GRAHAM IN 1902 AND NOW.

In 1902 when Horace F. Graham was a candidate for state auditor, Hon. O. H. Annis of North Troy wrote a sketch of Mr. Graham, which was printed in the North Troy Palladium. This character sketch and prediction makes particularly interesting reading at this time, as Mr. Graham is now a candidate for governor.

"If Horace F. Graham should be elected state auditor, it would bring to that office not merely a man of mature judgment and wide experience in the practical and business affairs of life; but as well, a lawyer, sound and alert, with ready grasp and comprehension of the intricate and important work before him.

"He is forty years of age, and was educated in the common schools and at Craftsbury academy, after which he fitted for college with Mr. Dakin at St. Johnsbury, and then graduated at Columbia college from the schools of political science and law in the class of 1888, and was admitted to the Vermont bar in October of the same year. Since his admission he has been engaged in the active practice of his profession at Craftsbury. As a counselor, a trier of cases, in all the varied duties of a central practitioner, he has always acquitted himself with marked credit and success, evidencing his breadth and comprehension by the faculty with which he has ably disposed of difficult and perplexing matters.

"And such qualifications might be expected from such lineage, for on his father's side his ancestry traces back to 1645 when they emigrated from Dorsetshire, England, to Greenwich, Conn., and he is descended on his mother's side from the Stuart, Brock and Harvey families who came from Scotland and settled in Barnet and Peacham. His mother, Lucy Fairbanks Swett, was the daughter of Robert Swett, who was the manager of the Fairbanks Scale Works until his death; and of Sarah Stuart, daughter of John Stuart of Barnet.

"As a legislator, Mr. Graham was a member of the House of 1892, serving as chairman of the committee on state and court expenses and was a member of the committee on revision of bills. He also introduced and advocated the measure that finally resulted in the revision of the statutes in 1894. He was again a member of the House of 1900, at which session he was chairman of the committee on corporations, member of the committee on rules, revision of bills and judiciary. In all these capacities he served his constituency and the state with manifest ability and in 1900 was confessedly one of the foremost leaders of the house. He was presidential elector in 1900, and has been state's attorney for Orleans county since 1898, being once re-elected. That he has discharged the duties of this important office with eminent ability, fairness and fidelity is unquestioned.

"As a business man it may be said that he is a member of the firm of Stevens, Graham & Kinney at Hardwick and of the firm of Graham & Skinner at Craftsbury. Both of these concerns do a very creditable business, and his connection with them is such as to give him a knowledge of commercial and business life. It is indicative of the regard in which he is held by the people of the town where he has lived most of his life, that he has been elected to membership in the various civic organizations, such as moderator, town agent and town auditor, for several years.

"The friends of Mr. Graham urge that the spirit of fairness ought to prevail in this contest and they remind the public of the fact that since 1876 only one incumbent who has lived on the east side of the state has held this office, and that was the Hon. F. D. Hale of Lunenburg.

"It is of the highest importance that the auditorship be held by a lawyer. This officer stands at the doorway of the state treasury. By way of him, enormous funds are divided and disbursed, and a large proportion of it is with reference to court expenses and expenditures. The one to have control of this is a person familiar with court proceedings and who can discriminate between just and unjust charges and proper and improper bills, for it is a matter of common knowledge that attempts to render and collect such enormous accounts are constantly made in deceptive ways. Milton says, 'Laws can discover sins, but not remove them,' but a lawyer, if anyone, can prevent and remove some of the evils in this respect."

## VERMONT NOTES

The annual convention of the Vermont State Dental society will be held at Burlington, May 17 and 18.

In the case of Phelps vs. Utley, in Washington county court, for alienation of affections, which asked for \$10,000 damages, the jury returned a verdict last week for the plaintiff to recover \$2,541 and costs.

The 44th state convention of the Young Men's Christian associations of Vermont, commencing the 49th anniversary of the state committee, and the 50th anniversary of the Burlington association, will be held at Burlington, May 25, 27 and 28. Convention theme, "Remembering the Past, What of the Future?"

## Laws Would Do Away With the Pestiferous Fly

It would appear, from what we know of the life history of the common housefly and from what remedial experimentation has already been carried on, that it is perfectly feasible for cities and towns to so greatly reduce the numbers of these annoying and dangerous insects as to render them of comparatively slight account. The health departments of most of our cities have the authority to abate nuisances dangerous to health, and it is easy for the health authorities of any city to formulate rules concerning the construction and care of stables and the keeping and disposal of manure which, if enforced, will do away with the housefly nuisance.

## Building a Community.

Some cities, just like some men, now and then get a real vision of the things which mean true growth. In western Pennsylvania in a county underlain with rich deposits of coal, I recently found evidences of a new order of city development. The little city of Washington, with a population of about 25,000, owns a community building, and in and around this building are centered all of the city's public welfare activities. A brief story of how this community found itself, or how it awoke one day and put on the garment of real economic and civic growth, seems to me to be worth narrating. The community building movement was started in Washington, Pa., in September, 1914. At the very outset was capitalized the Trenton (Missouri) slogan, "Get acquainted with your neighbor, you might like him." And Washington, Pa., is like many other communities in America. As the town, in its early history, began to grow out of its swaddling clothes and take on city ways, and to develop its manufacturing, the city fathers began to enact laws and make regulations looking to the comfort and ease of the residents of the city, and designed to make trading irksome for those who came in from the rural sections. Hitching posts were established on the main streets and around the court house square. Like all self-respecting farmers everywhere, the Washington county farmers resented this invasion of their personal liberties and the old fight between the town and country was on in earnest. The more order business began to pick up and the smaller towns of the county cried out in holy wrath against the intrigues of the big town and, by this well-ordered sympathy for the rural residents, gained some of Washington's trade.

About this time the Washington board of trade got busy, and after a careful survey found that \$2,500,000 annually was going out of the county to the mail-order houses. This condition opened the eyes of business men and many demanded the return of the hitching post, but to this the city fathers turned a deaf ear. Then the board of trade found eight men who had a real vision. These eight men put up \$5,000 each to buy and remodel an old building in the very center of the business district, back of which there was a large wagon yard. In this building they at once installed the executive offices of the board of trade, provided offices for the county agricultural agent, fitted up the building for the use of the farmers and the farmers' wives—reading rooms and reception rooms for the women, and smoking and waiting rooms for the men. They also provided hitching racks in the rear yards for more than half a hundred teams. They sent out word to the county inviting the people to come in only to find that the rural residents were still suspicious of the meaning of their good deeds. This did not stop the zeal of these community builders. The merchants and business men of Washington began to go out in groups and call on their neighbors in the rural sections, carrying with them a new conception of the meaning of cooperation. They urged the smaller towns and the farmers to organize community betterment clubs. On one of these trips into Canonsburg, a smaller city in their county, two hundred business men formed a procession and marched down the main street led by band playing a dirge, and the people came to the conclusion that the rural residents were still suspicious of the meaning of their good deeds. This did not stop the zeal of these community builders. 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